QUICK DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE

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QUICK DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE

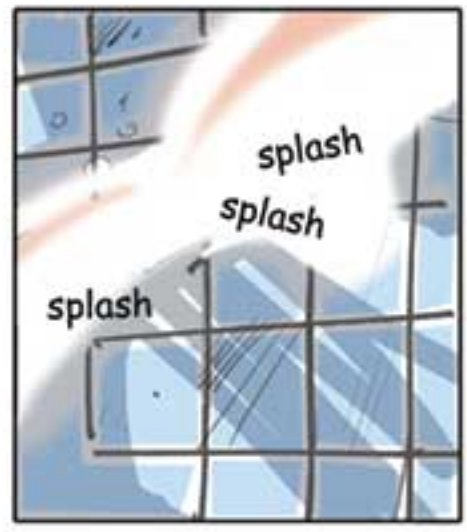
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN E-DIPLOMAT

IN THE INCREASINGLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD, DIPLOMACY IS OUR ONLY ALTERNATIVE. WARS DO NOT PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR MODERN PROBLEMS, WHETHER THESE ARE REGIONAL CRISES, ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE, OR THE RISK OF GLOBAL PANDEMICS. COMPROMISE AND CONSENSUS ARE NOT ONLY THE MORE ETHNICAL APPROACH, BUT NECESSITY.

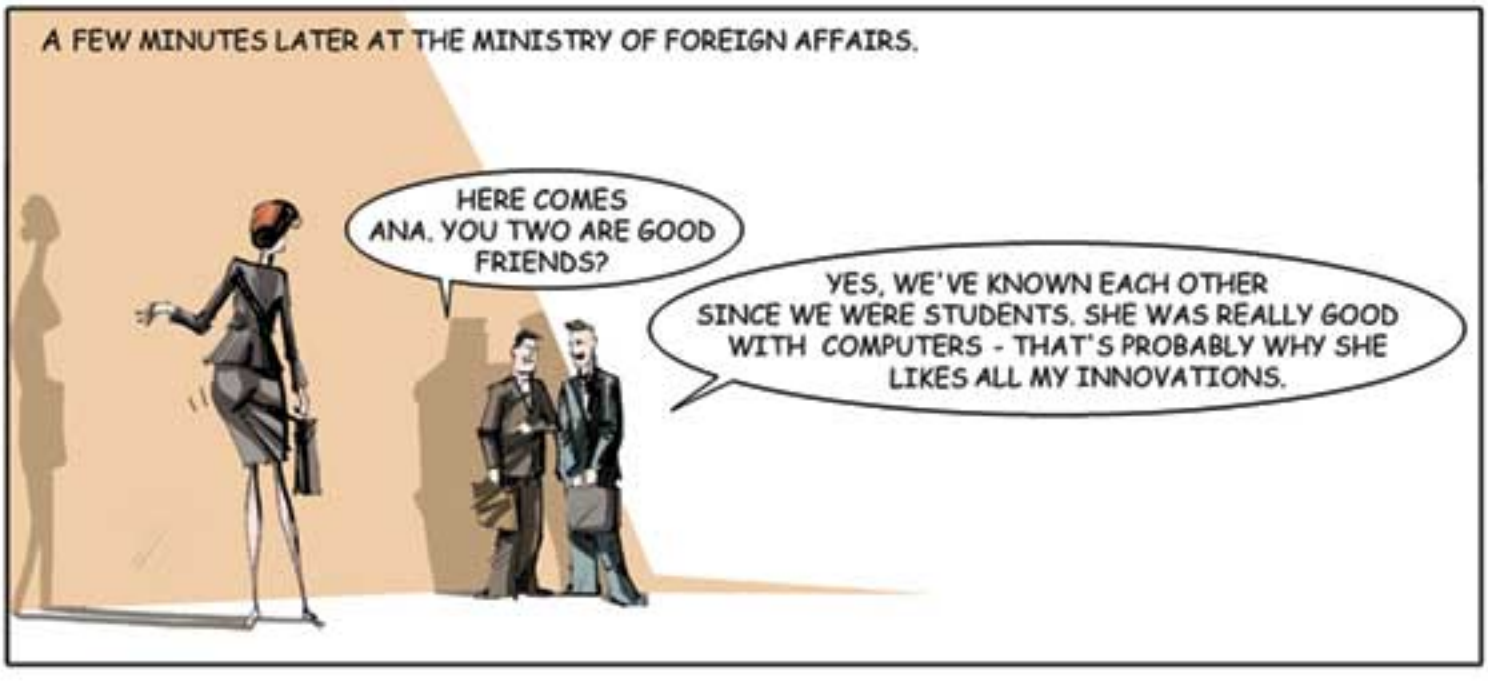
DIPLO COMIC BOOKS AIM TO EXPLAIN THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF DIPLOMACY IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD. THE COMIC BOOKS ILLUSTRATE THE LINK BETWEEN EFFICIENT DIPLOMACY AND FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR THE URGENT PROBLEMS FACING MANKIND. THEY ALSO SHOW HOW DIPLOMACY CAN BE IMPROVED THROUGH THE USE OF MODERN TOOLS AND APPROACHES.

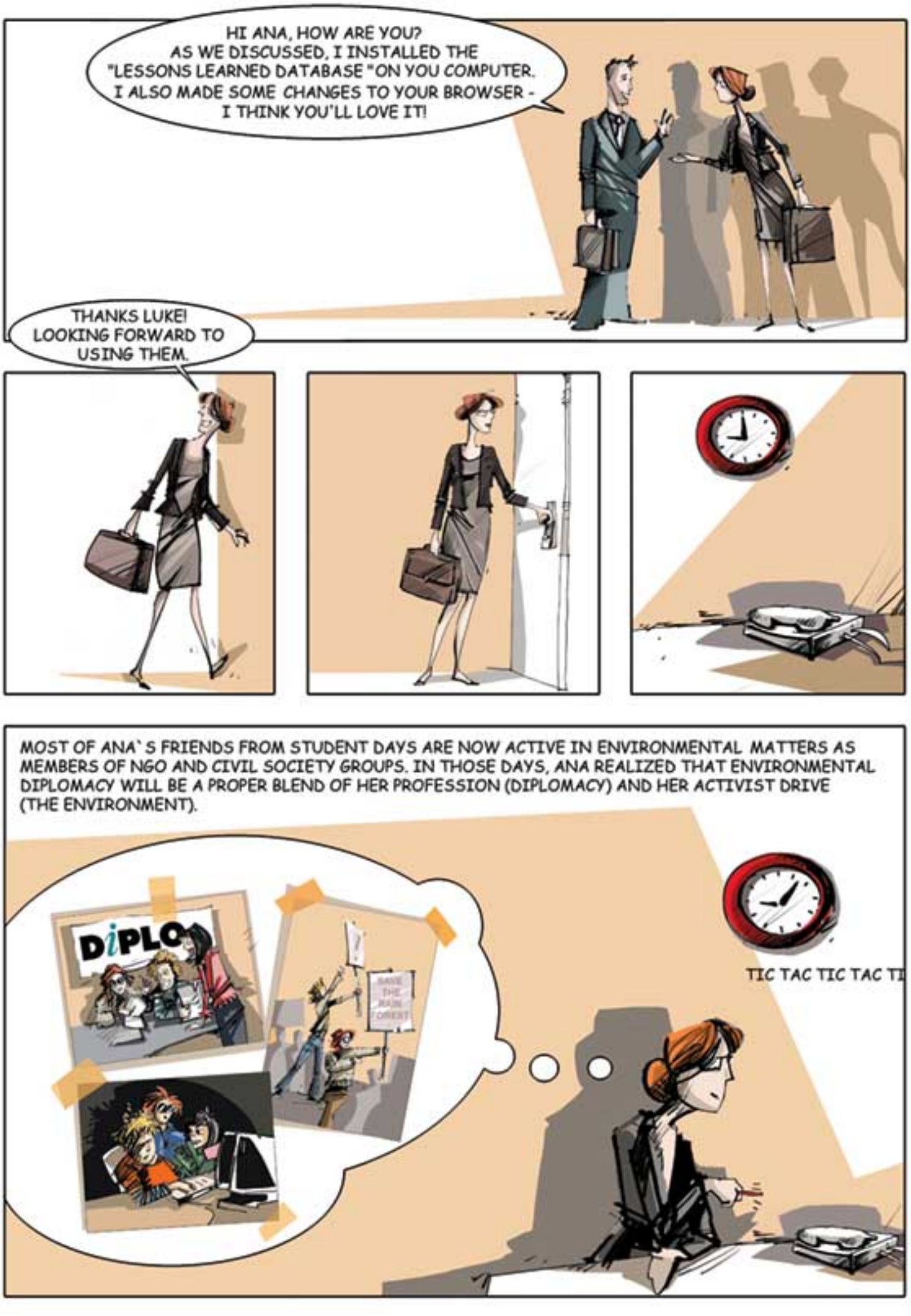
4.30, MONDAY MORNING, 30 KILOMETERS FROM THE BORDER
ping
ping
ping
ping
CRACK
BROO
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, THE PIPELINE IS BROKEN!
THE OIL IS SPILLING IN THE RIVER!!!

6.20, MONDAY MORNING, AT THE FLAT OF ANA GABEL, ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMAT.



DIPLOMATS ARE OFTEN CALLED UPON TO DEAL WITH SITUATIONS FOR WHICH THEY CANNOT PREPARE IN ADVANCE. KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND EXPERIENCE ARE BECOMING KEY FACTORS IN ENABLING THE DIPLOMAT TO ACT APPROPRIATELY IN UNPREDICTABLE SITUATIONS. MODERN TECHNOLOGY CAN FREE DIPLOMATS FROM THEIR ROUTINE TASKS LEAVING THEM MORE ENERGY AND TIME TO USE THEIR EXPERIENCE, CREATIVITY AND INTUITION.




HI ANA, HOW ARE YOU?
AS WE DISCUSSED, I INSTALLED THE "LESSONS LEARNED DATABASE "ON YOU COMPUTER.
I ALSO MADE SOME CHANGES TO YOUR BROWSER - I THINK YOU'LL LOVE IT!
THANKS LUKE! LOOKING FORWARD TO USING THEM.
MOST OF ANA` S FRIENDS FROM STUDENT DAYS ARE NOW ACTIVE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS AS MEMBERS OF NGO AND CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS. IN THOSE DAYS, ANA REALIZED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY WILL BE A PROPER BLEND OF HER PROFESSION (DIPLOMACY) AND HER ACTIVIST DRIVE (THE ENVIRONMENT).
DiPLO
SAVE THE RAIN FOREST
TIC TAC TIC TAC TI

RIIIIIIIING
RIIIING
RIIIIIIIING
RIIIIIIIING
RIIIING
RIIIING
ANA, THERE HAS BEEN A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACCIDENT IN THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY, WE WILL NEED YOU TO FLY THERE RIGHT AWAY!
OF COURSE!
ANA NEEDS TO PREPARE: WHAT DOCUMENTS SHOULD SHE BRING? DOES SHE HAVE ALL THE INFO SHE WILL NEED? HOW CAN SHE CONSULT THE EXPERTS?
LET' S TRY LUKE' S INNOVATION.
ARCHIVES DATABASE
OIL POLLUTION
SEARCH
DOWNLOAD

... TO THE AIRPORT, PLEASE..

WROOOOOOM

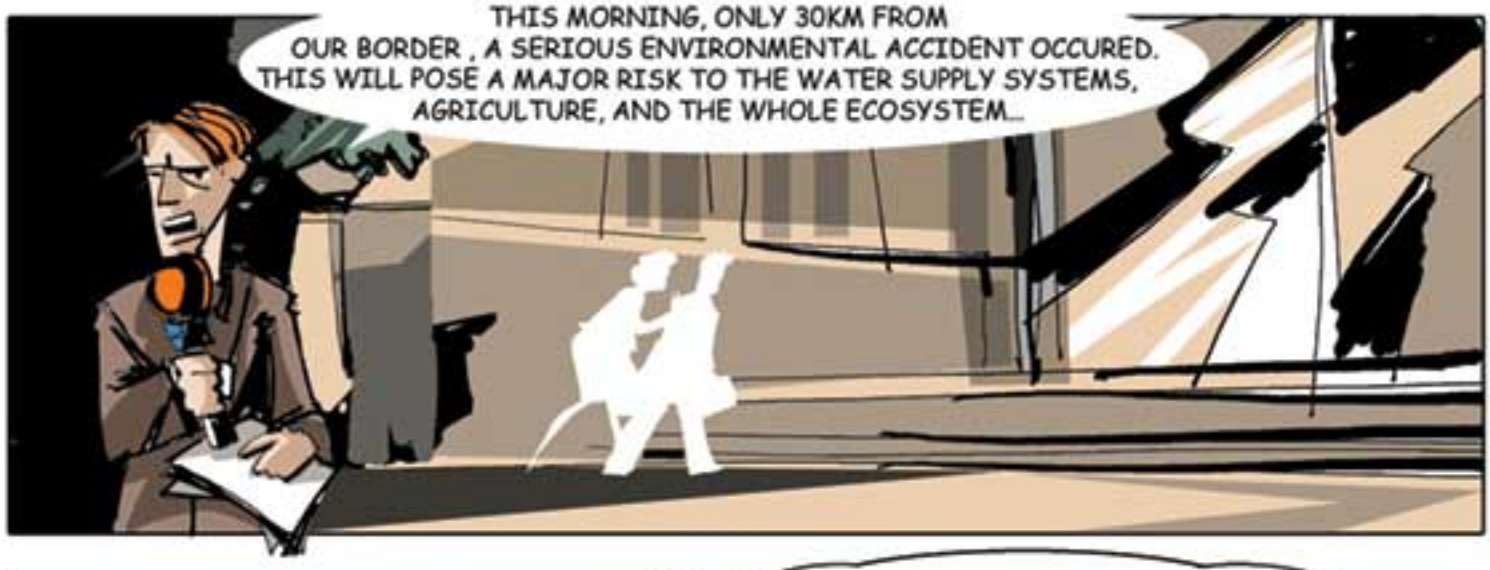
SVUUUUUUSH
SVUUUSHHH

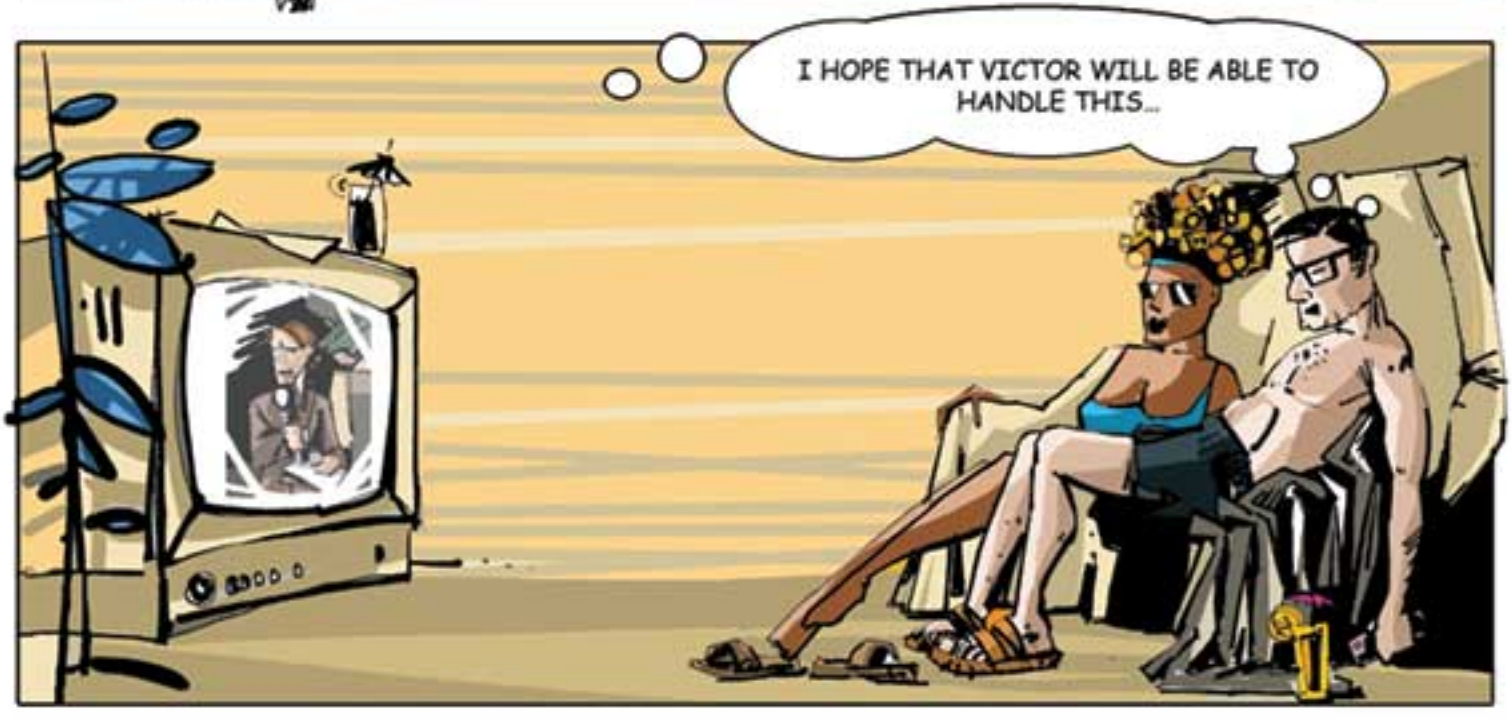
ARRIVALS

HI VIC,
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!
HI ANA!

UNFORTUNATELY, IT TAKES A DISASTER FOR US TO MEET... AND BAD NEWS NEVER COMES ALONE...THE AMBASSADOR IS ON HOLIDAY, AND I'M THE ONLY DIPLOMAT AT THE EMBASSY.

THE USE OF INTERNET IN PUBLIC DIPLOMACY RAISES MANY ISSUES FOR MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HOW TO ADAPT TO THE INFORMALITY OF THE INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS? HOW TO PREPARE A MESSAGE THAT CAN HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE INTERNET? MINISTRIES GUIDELINES ON COMMUNICATION NEED ADJUSTEMENT TO EXPLOIT COMMUNICATION OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES COMNG FROM NEW MEDIA.

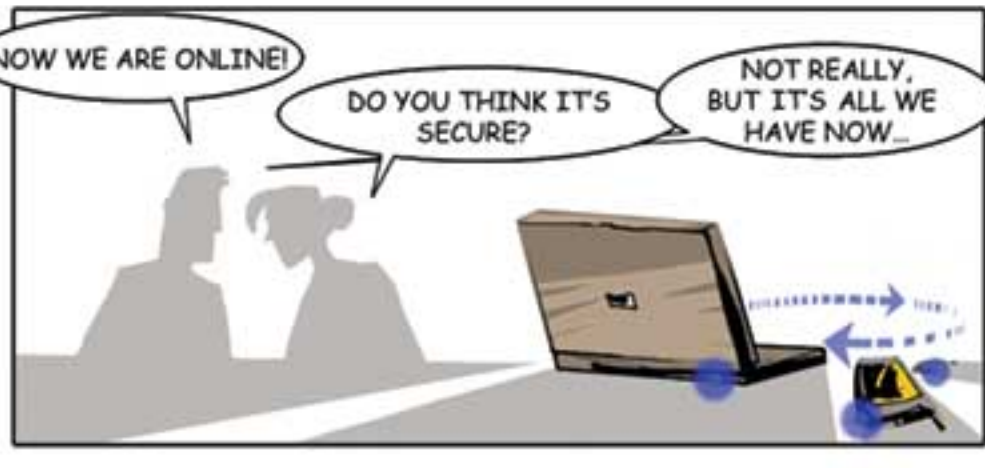

THIS MORNING, ONLY 30KM FROM OUR BORDER , A SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL ACCIDENT OCCURED. THIS WILL POSE A MAJOR RISK TO THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS, AGRICULTURE, AND THE WHOLE ECOSYSTEM...

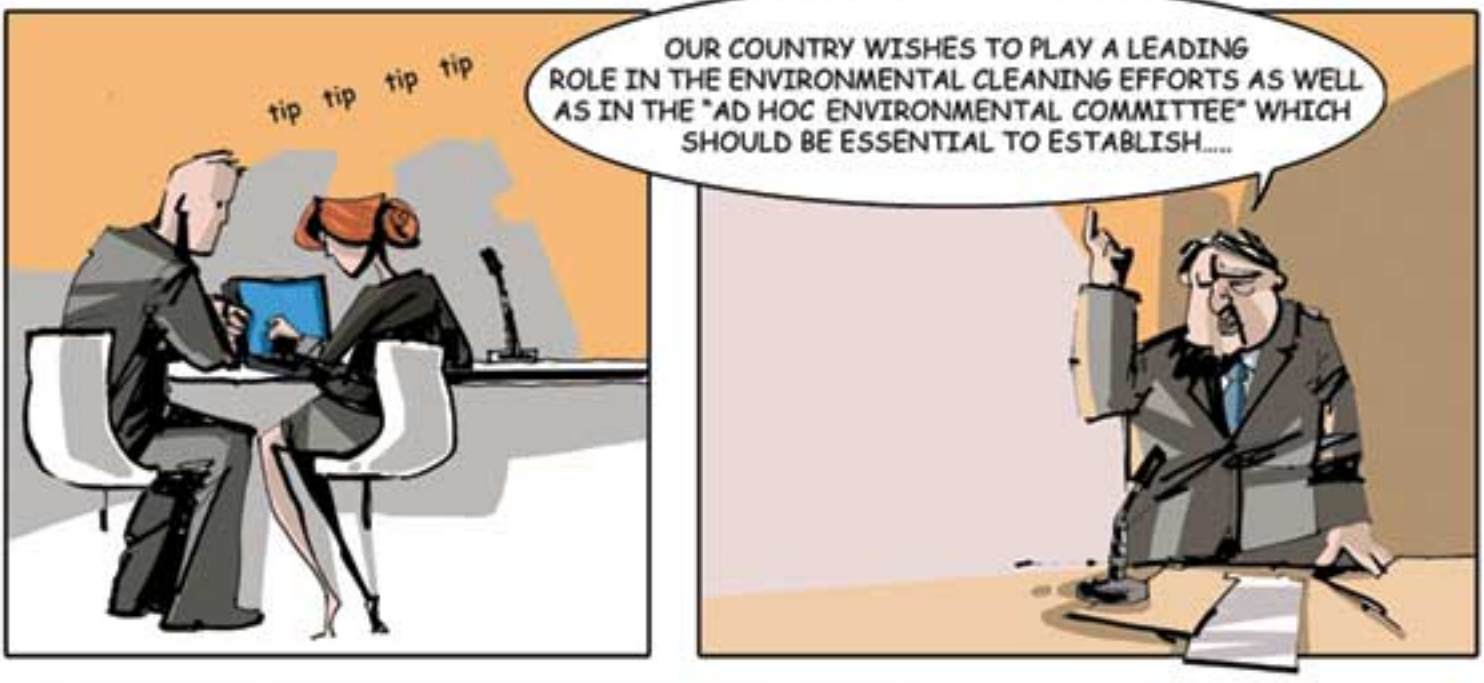

I HOPE THAT VICTOR WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS...

DARLING, WE HAVE TO GET BACK REALLY SOON...

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS > > SEARCH > ENTER
tic tic tic

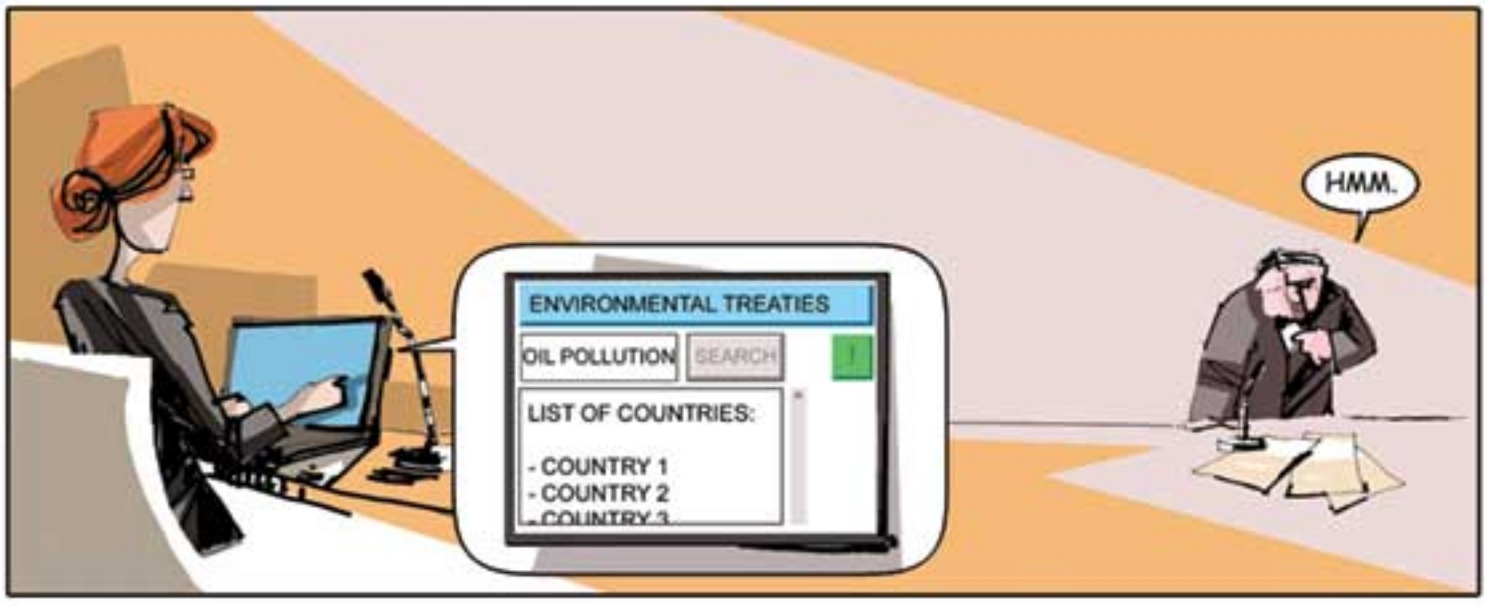
TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF ONLINE MEETINGS, WHICH CAN REPLACE CERTAIN EXPERT AND TECHNICAL MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN DIPLOMATIC CENTERS WORLDWIDE. ONLINE MEETINGS ARE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN THE PREPARATION FOR FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS. A BALANCED INTERPLAY BETWEEN ONLINE AND TRADITIONAL MEETINGS WILL MOST LIKELY DEVELOP IN THE FIELD OF MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY.




tip tip tip tip
OUR COUNTRY WISHES TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING EFFORTS AS WELL AS IN THE "AD HOC ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE" WHICH SHOULD BE ESSENTIAL TO ESTABLISH.....

SOME COUNTRIES WISH TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE. GIVEN THE EFFECTS OF THE OIL SPILL, ANA'S COUNTRY SHOULD BE THE NATURAL HOST OF THE COMMITTEE. FOR THIS SHE HAS TO LOBBY HARD
?!?!?!!!
?!?!?!!!
OUR COUNTRY ...

I NEED TO CHECK THE MINISTRY DATABASE ABOUT THE RATIFICATION OF ENVIORNMENTAL TREATIES.
...WILL HOST COMMITTEE...
ANA PREPARES COUNTER-ARGUMENTS...

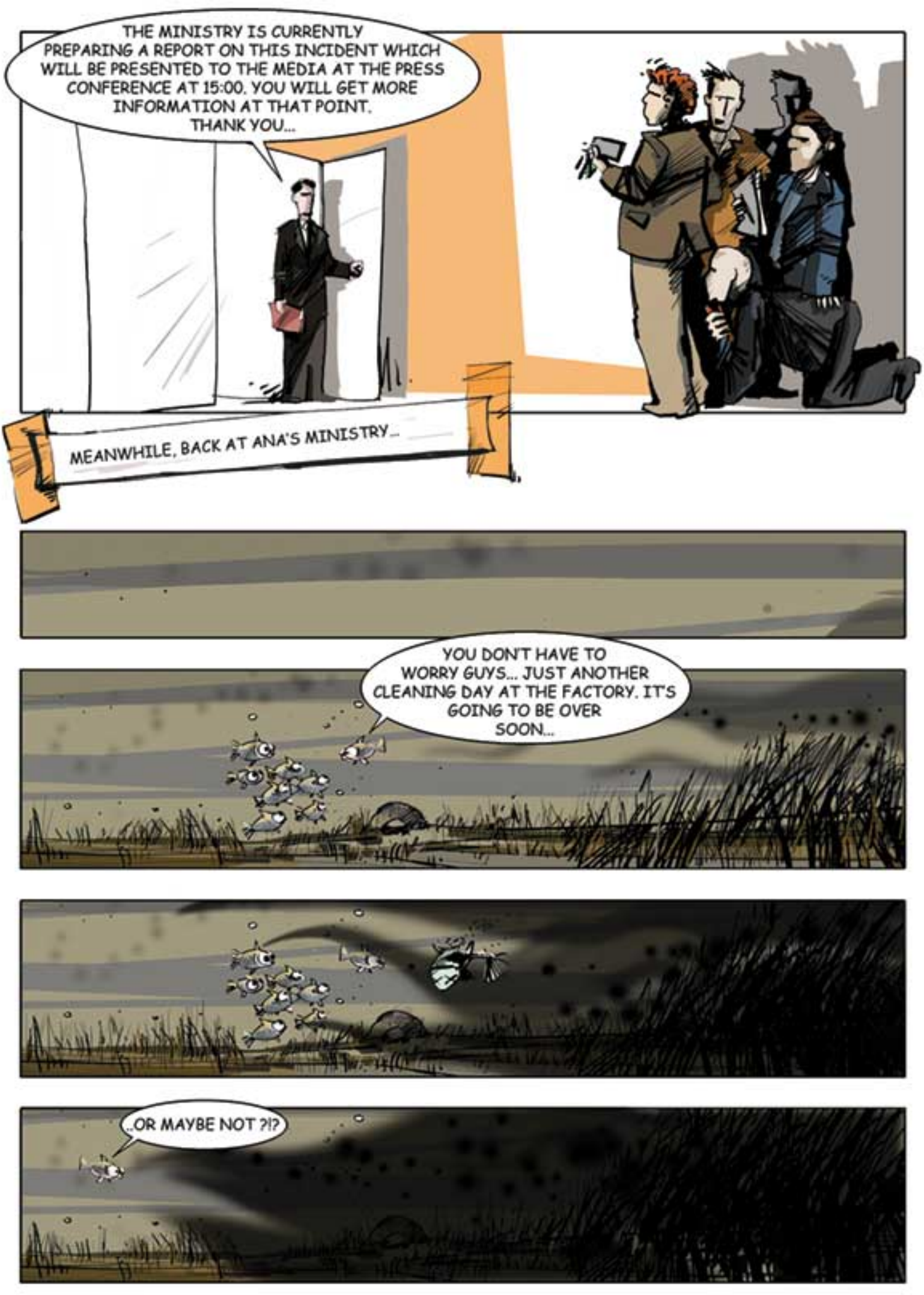

ENVIRONMENTAL TREATIES
OIL POLLUTION
SEARCH
LIST OF COUNTRIES:
- COUNTRY 1
- COUNTRY 2
HMM.

LOOK AT THIS !
..AND BECAUSE OF THAT..

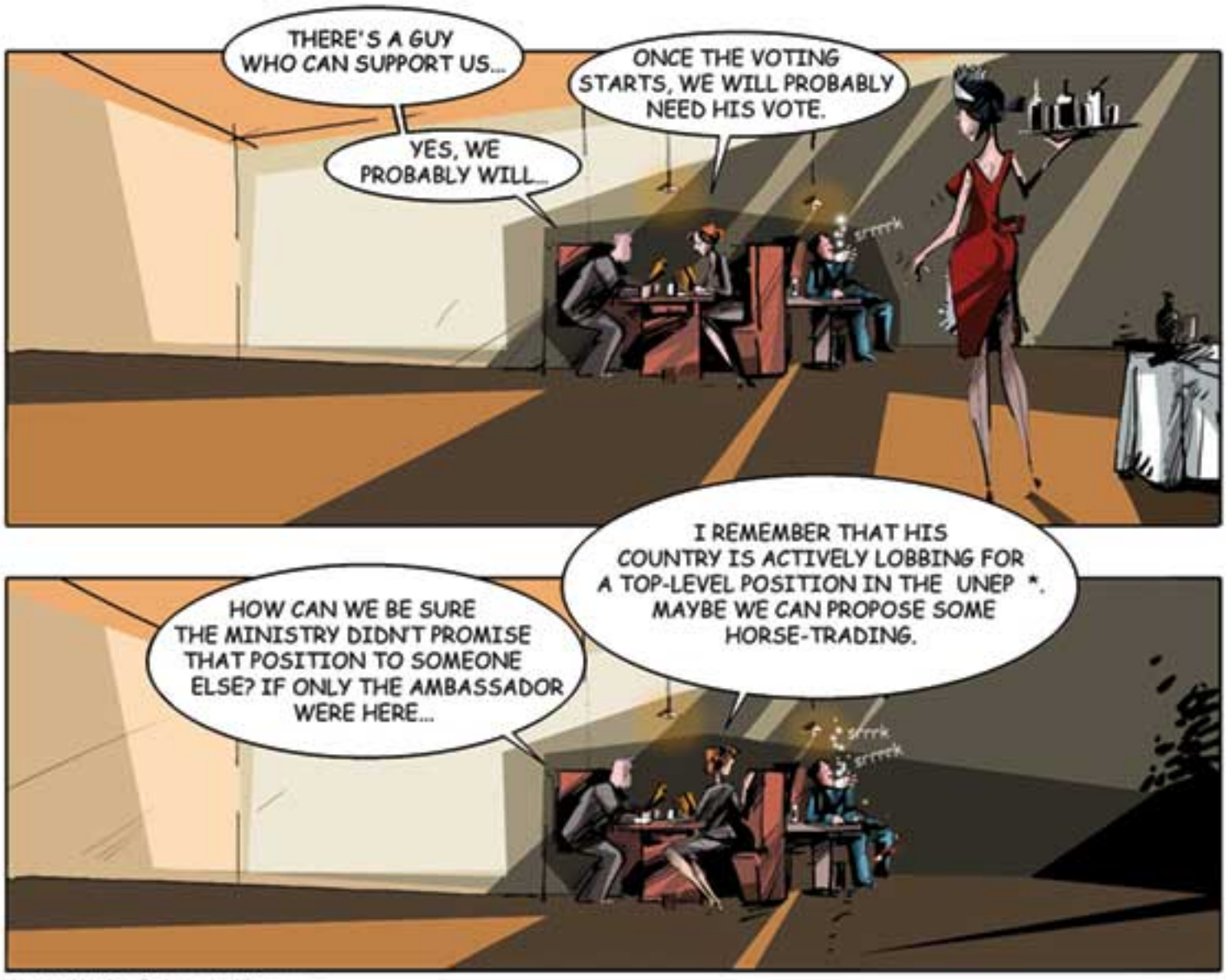
...YOUR COUNTRY HAS NOT RATIFIED SOME OF THE BASIC ENVINROMENT PROTECTION TREATIES, INCLUDING THE OIL POLLUTION TREATY. SO, I DON'T THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO HOST THE COMMITTEE.

WELL DONE ANA !

BLINK


THE MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY PREPARING A REPORT ON THIS INCIDENT WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MEDIA AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT 15:00. YOU WILL GET MORE INFORMATION AT THAT POINT. THANK YOU...
MEANWHILE, BACK AT ANA'S MINISTRY...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY GUYS... JUST ANOTHER CLEANING DAY AT THE FACTORY. IT'S GOING TO BE OVER SOON...
..OR MAYBE NOT ?!?

CANDIDATURES FOR POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS ARE OFTEN AN EXTENSION OF NATIONAL POLITICS. WITH HUNDREDS OF PARALLEL CANDIDATURES FOR INTERNATIONAL POSTS, AND ALL CANDIDATES LOBBYING FOR THE SUPPORT OF ALMOST 200 COUNTRIES, THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO "SWAP" SUPPORT, IF ONE HAS ACCESS TO THIS DATA. A CANDIDATURE DATABASE CAN PROVIDE A DIPLOMAT WITH NECESSARY INFORMATION TO PROPOSE A POSSIBLE "SWAP" WITH COUNTERPARTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.



* United Nations Environmental Programme

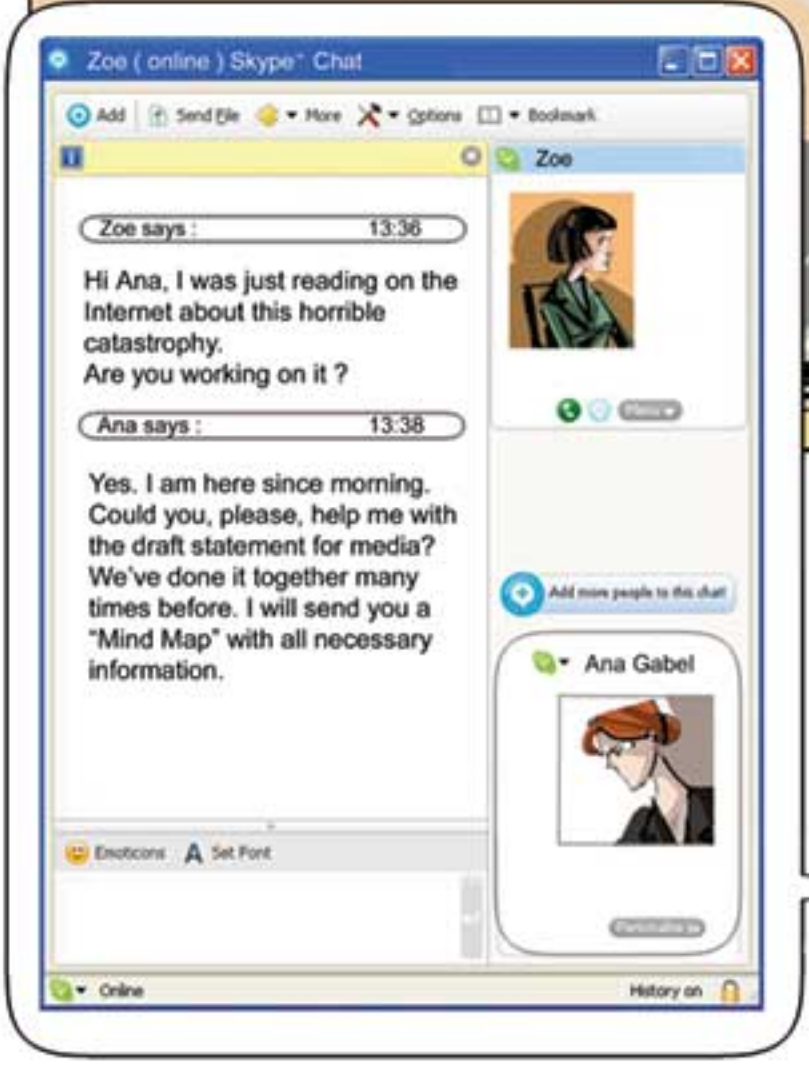
* personal digital assistant

YES, AMBASSADOR, I HAVE ALREADY SENT... I HOPE THAT VICTOR IS MANAGING THE SITUATION..
ABSOLUTELY! ANA IS WITH HIM. WE ARE WAITING FOR THE LATEST INFO ON THIS SITUATION, IT HAS DRAWN A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST FROM THE MEDIA.
ANA AND VICTOR RETURN FROM LUNCH...
WHAT' S THE TIME ?
13:25
DID YOU RECIEVE A MESSAGE?
beep beep
BEEP BEEP
MESSAGE
ANA, WE NEED SUPPORT IN DRAFTING MINISTRY'S STATEMENT FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE.
WHAT'S HAPPENING OVER THERE ?
OPTIONS

HM .
YES, GOOD IDEA !
CAN WE REACH HER THROUGH SKYPE?
LET ME CONTACT ZOE
- SHE WORKED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT BEFORE ME. SHE'S AT OUR EMBASSY IN ATHENS NOW.
SHE CAN HELP US.

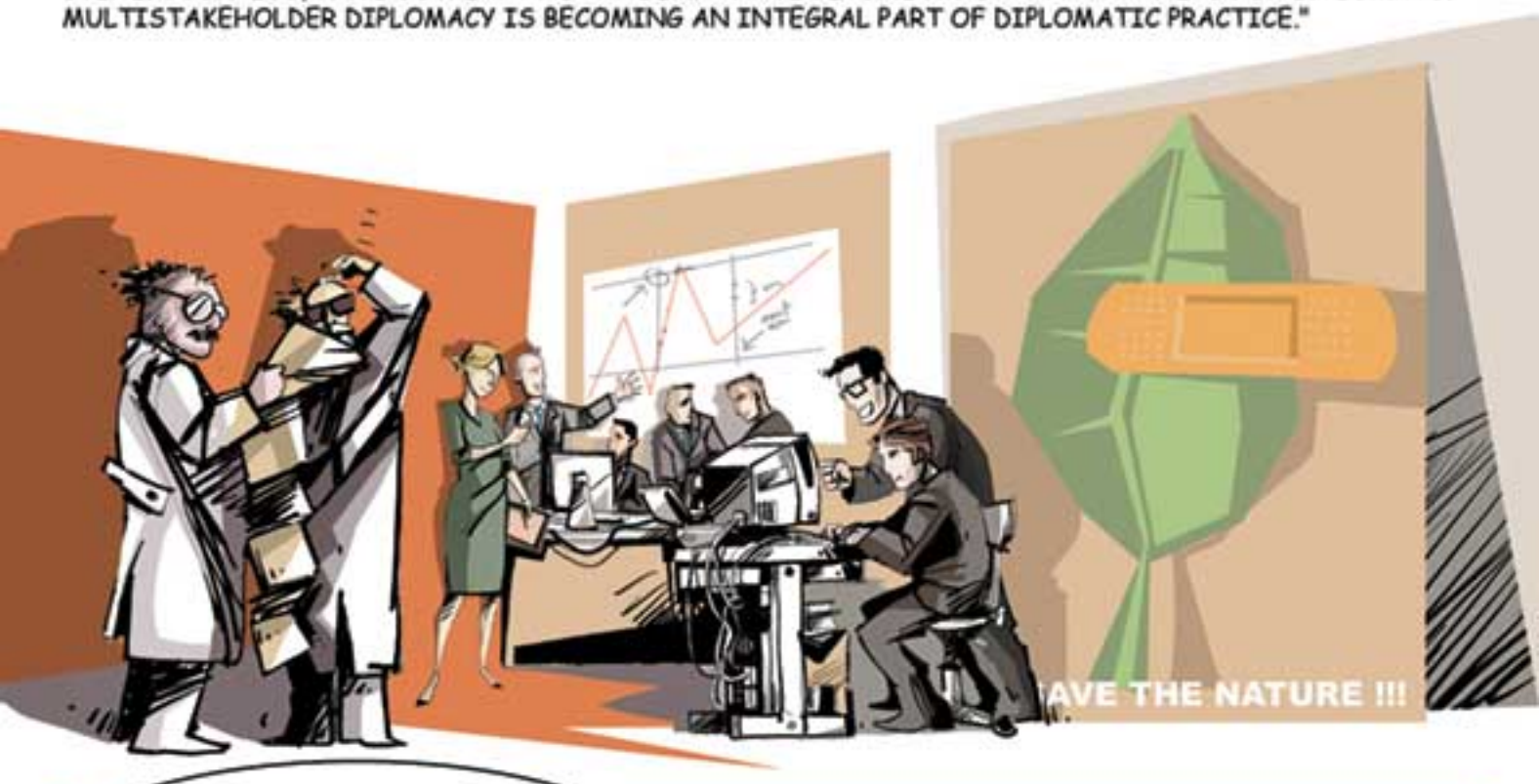
I FEEL LIKE WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SOME PROGRESS NOW.
M-HM !

THROUGH TECHNOLOGY (IN THIS CASE SKYPE) ZOE'S KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS CAN BE USED WHEN THEY ARE MOST NEEDED. ALTHOUGH SHE IS BASED IN ATHENS, FAR AWAY FROM THE NEGOTIATION VENUE, SHE CAN HELP WITH DRAFTING THE PRESS RELEASE. AN INTEGRATED DIPLOMATIC SERVICE WOULD ALLOW FOR THE ACTIVATION OF ALL TALENTS AND EXPERIENCE WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED.
THE TECHNOLOGY IS AVAILABLE BUT THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND POLICY OF DIPLOMATIC SERVICES NEEDS TO BE ADJUSTED.



HMM ?
Ana Gabel (online) Skype™ Chat
Add
Send File
More
Options
Bookmark
Ana Gabel
Zoe says : 13:42
Consider it done in less then an hour, I promise!
Add more people to this chat
Zoe
Emoticons
Set Font
HOW CAN WE GET THE MEDIA TO FOCUS ON THIS INCIDENT?
THE MEDIA IS ALL OVER THIS STORY, AND THE INTERNET IF FULL OF INFORMATION, OPINIONS AND SPECULATION...
WHICH IS ACTUALLY TRUE
VICTOR, CAN YOU, PLEASE, USE YOUR BLOGGING SKILLS TO DISSEMINATE POSITIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH THE INTERNET?
I THINK THAT WE WOULD GET SOME FEEDBACK IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, BUT...
BUT WHAT?

NUMEROUS REPLIES ARE POSTED WITHIN A MATTER OF MINUTES. THE BLOG MESSAGE CONTRIBUTED TO SHAPING THE PUBLIC OPINION AND SPIN ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS.
THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW ACTORS IS ONE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN DIPLOMACY. THE AVAILABILITY OF THE INTERNET AND ICT HAS INFLUENCED THE SHAPE OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SCENE. BUSINESS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND ACADEMIA HAVE BECOME IMPORTANT PARTNERS FOR DIPLOMATS. MULTISTAKEHOLDER DIPLOMACY IS BECOMING AN INTEGRAL PART OF DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE."

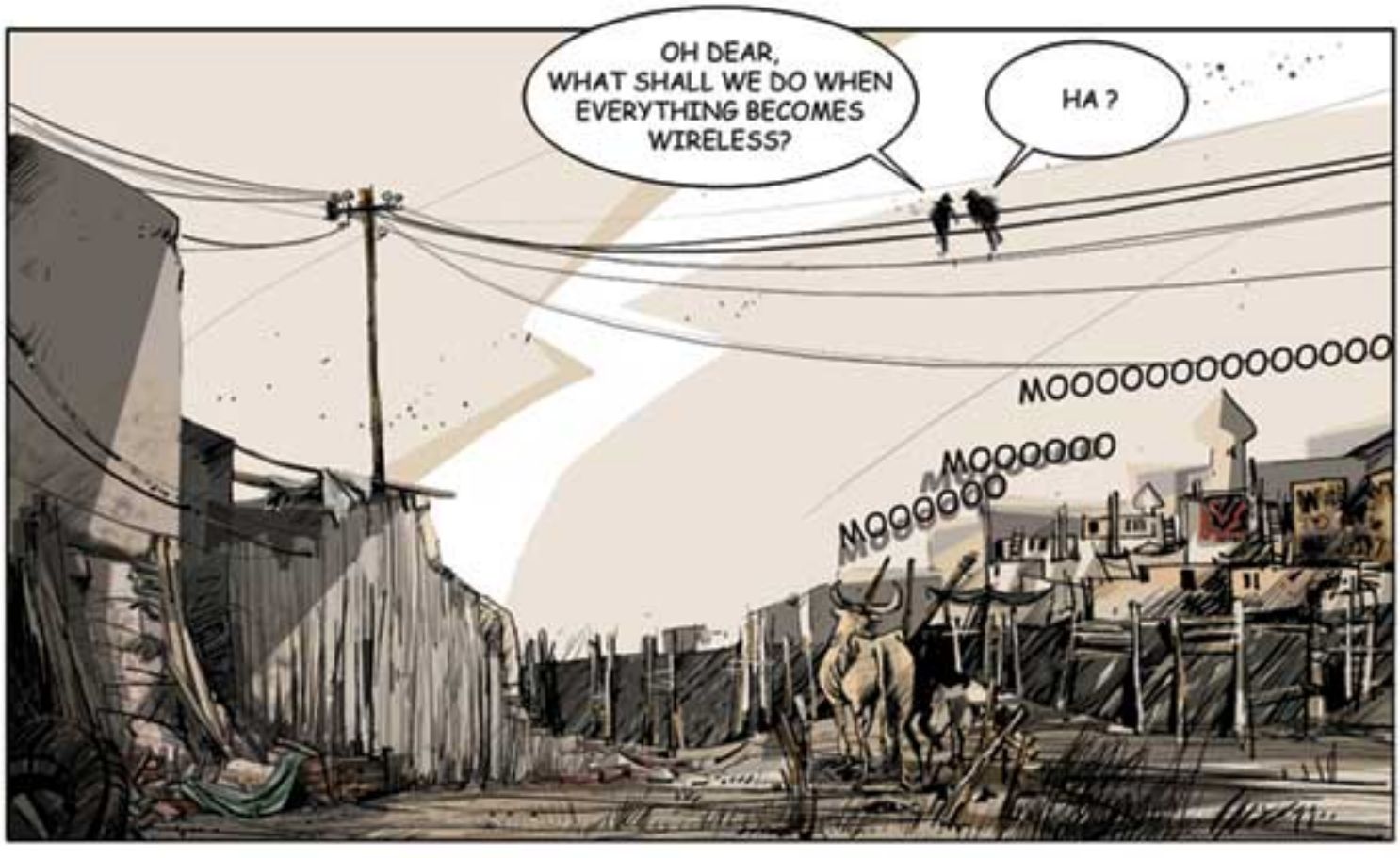


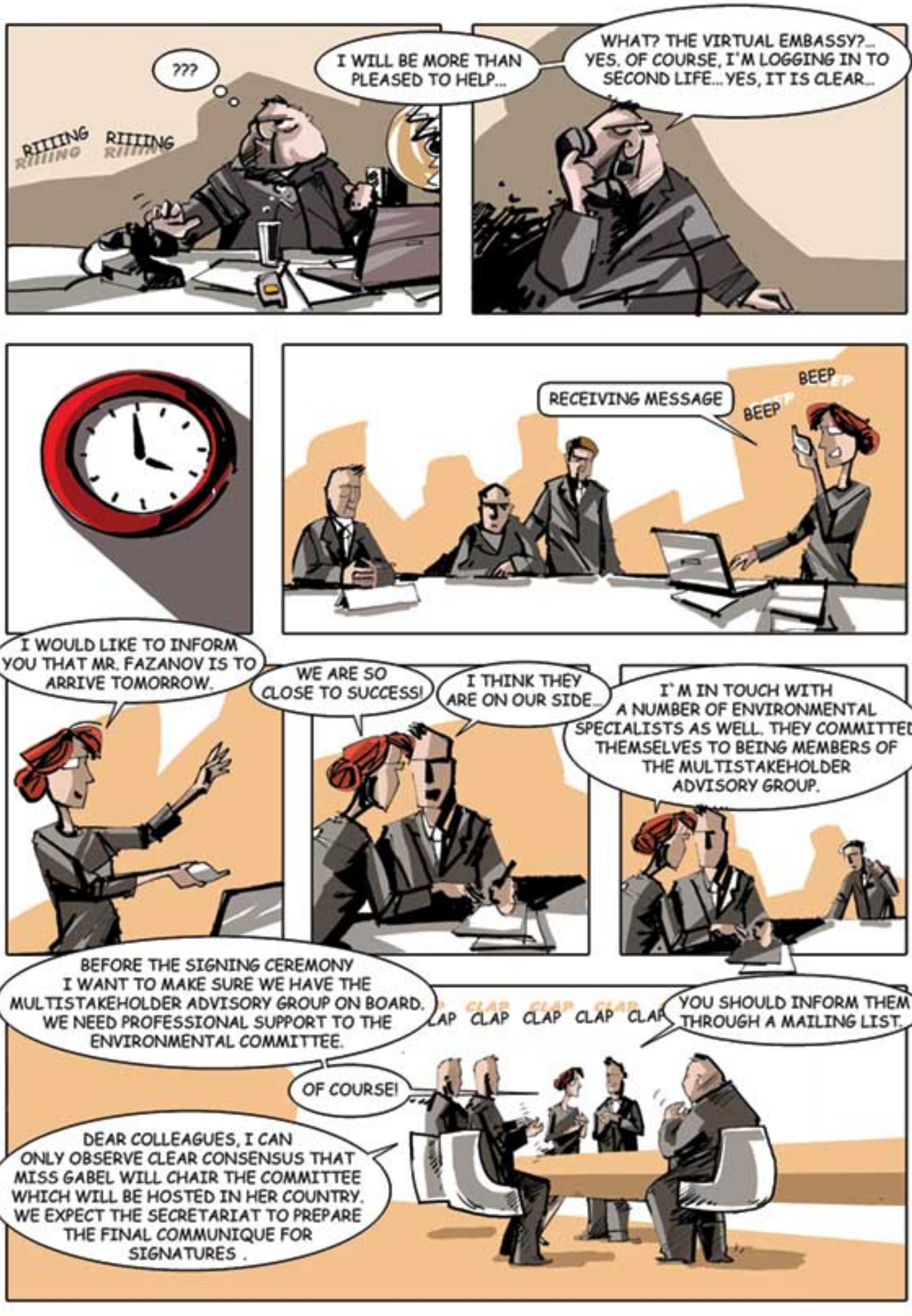
FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
MR. MINISTER COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT...
15.00 - IN THE MEANTIME... PRESS CONFERENCE BACK IN THE MINISTRY
FLASH
CLICK
FLASH

...I THINK THAT THE HOST SHOULD DEFRAY THE COST OF THE COMMITTEE....
MAY I HAVE A WORD, PLEASE?

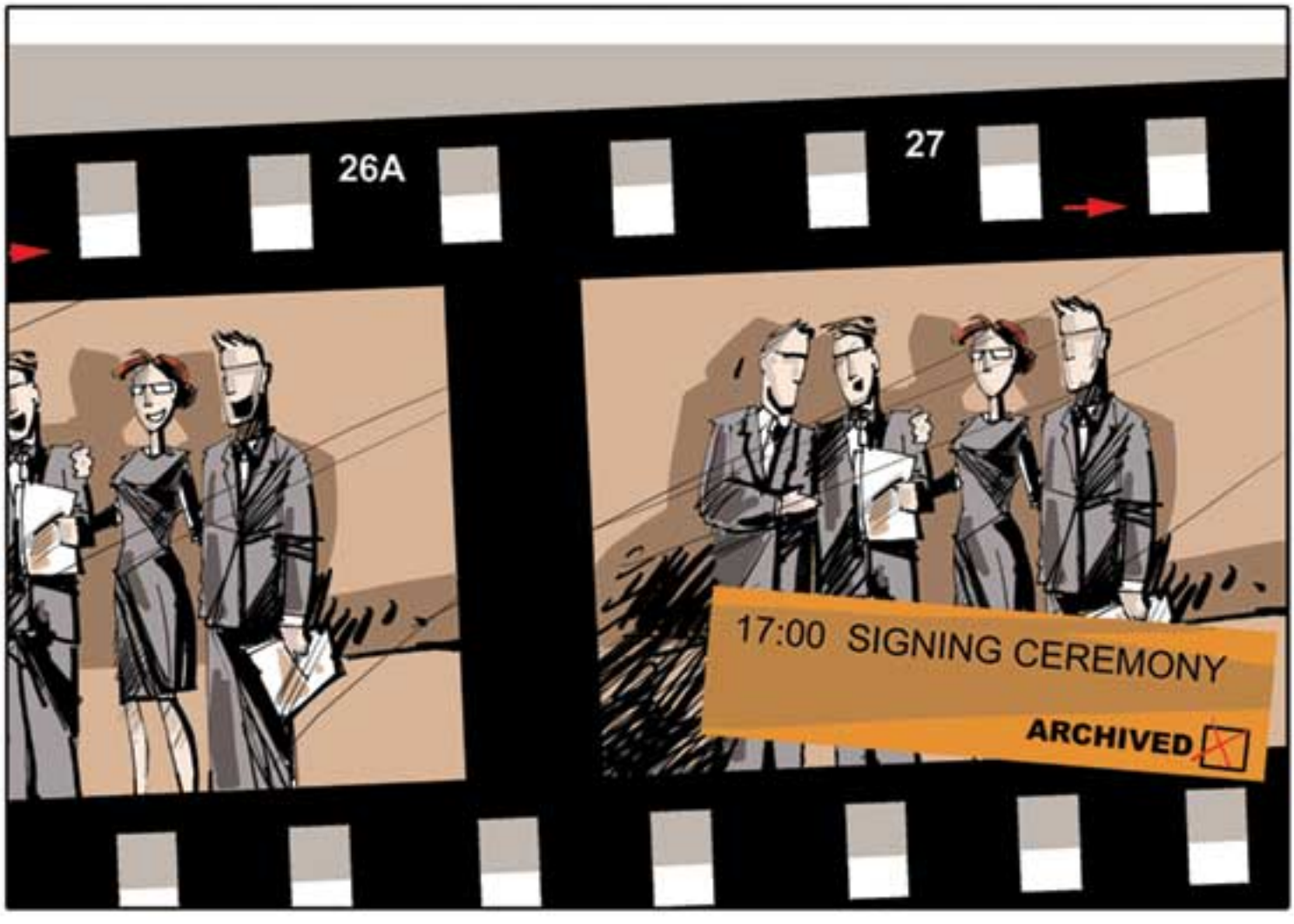
THE VIRTUAL EMBASSY IS A NEW DIPLOMATIC CONCEPT WHICH EMERGED ON MAY 22, 2007, WITH THE OPENING OF THE MALDIVES VIRTUAL EMBASSY IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD OF SECOND LIFE. VARIOUS VIRTUAL REPRESENTATION FUNCTIONS CAN BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH E-MAIL, THE WEB AND OTHER INTERNET TOOLS AS WELL. BY 2011 IT IS EXPECTED THAT 8 OUT OF 11 INTERNET USERS WILL SPEND TIME IN VIRTUAL REALITY SPACES SUCH AS SECOND LIFE. THIS WILL SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT MANY ASPECTS OF MODERN SOCIETY, INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION.

WHEN WE CALL AN EMBASSY "VIRTUAL" IT MEANS THAT THIS EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE PHYSICAL PREMISES. IN A VIRTUAL EMBASSY, THE AMBASSADOR REMAINS IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF HIS/HER OWN COUNTRY AND COMMUNICATES WITH THE OTHER COUNTRY THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS.



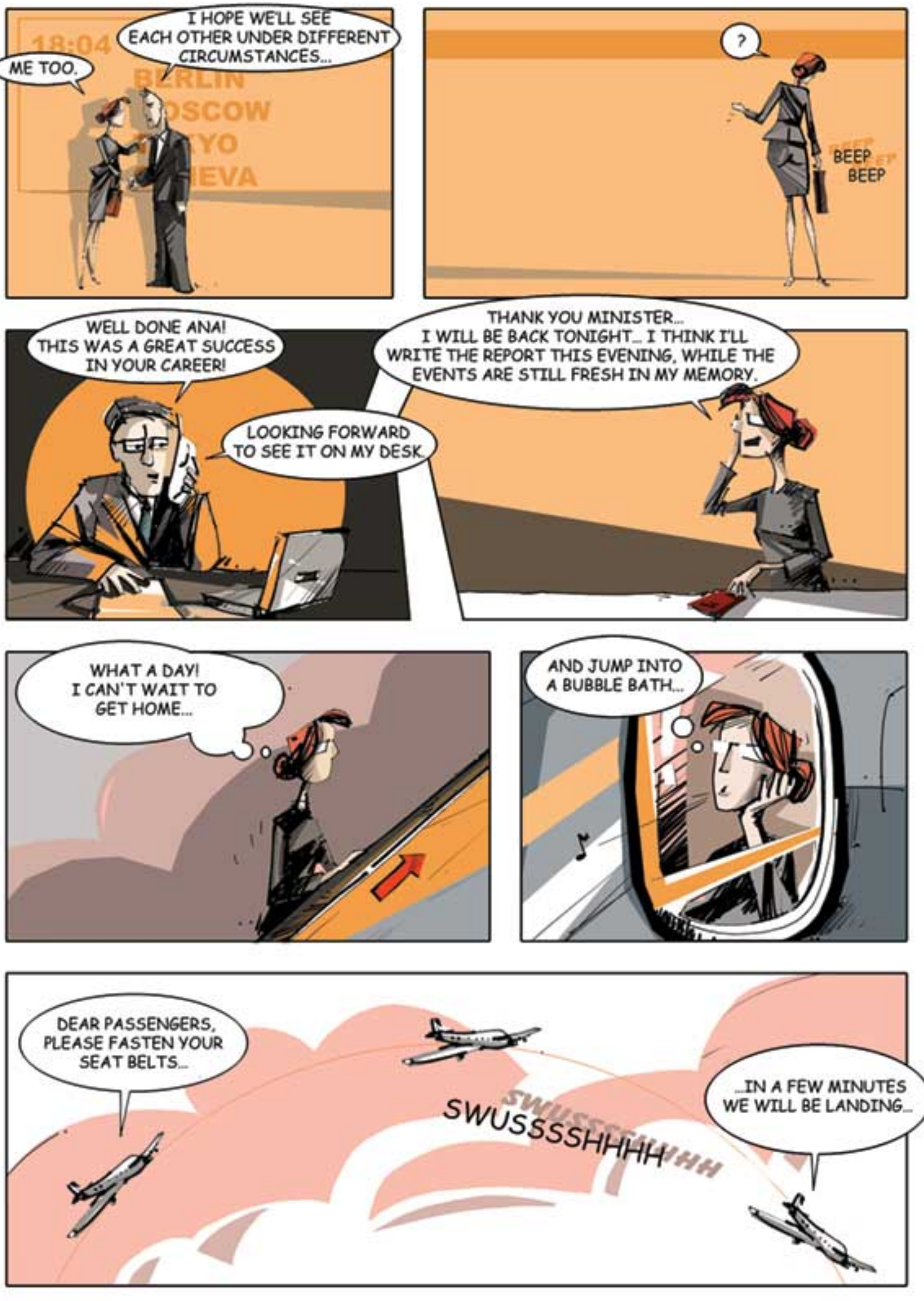

???
I WILL BE MORE THAN PLEASED TO HELP...
RIIIING
RIIIING
WHAT? THE VIRTUAL EMBASSY?... YES. OF COURSE, I'M LOGGING IN TO SECOND LIFE... YES, IT IS CLEAR...
RECEIVING MESSAGE
BEEP
BEEP
I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT MR. FAZANOV IS TO ARRIVE TOMORROW.
WE ARE SO CLOSE TO SUCCESS!
I THINK THEY ARE ON OUR SIDE...
I`M IN TOUCH WITH A NUMBER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALISTS AS WELL. THEY COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO BEING MEMBERS OF THE MULTISTAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP.
BEFORE THE SIGNING CEREMONY I WANT TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE THE MULTISTAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP ON BOARD. WE NEED PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE.
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
YOU SHOULD INFORM THEM THROUGH A MAILING LIST.
OF COURSE!
DEAR COLLEAGUES, I CAN ONLY OBSERVE CLEAR CONSENSUS THAT MISS GABEL WILL CHAIR THE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE HOSTED IN HER COUNTRY. WE EXPECT THE SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE FOR SIGNATURES .

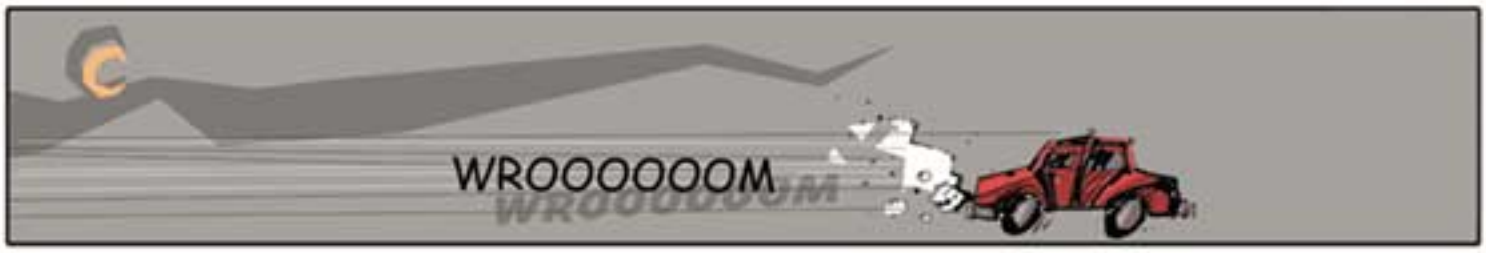
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH


26A
27
17:00 SIGNING CEREMONY
ARCHIVED

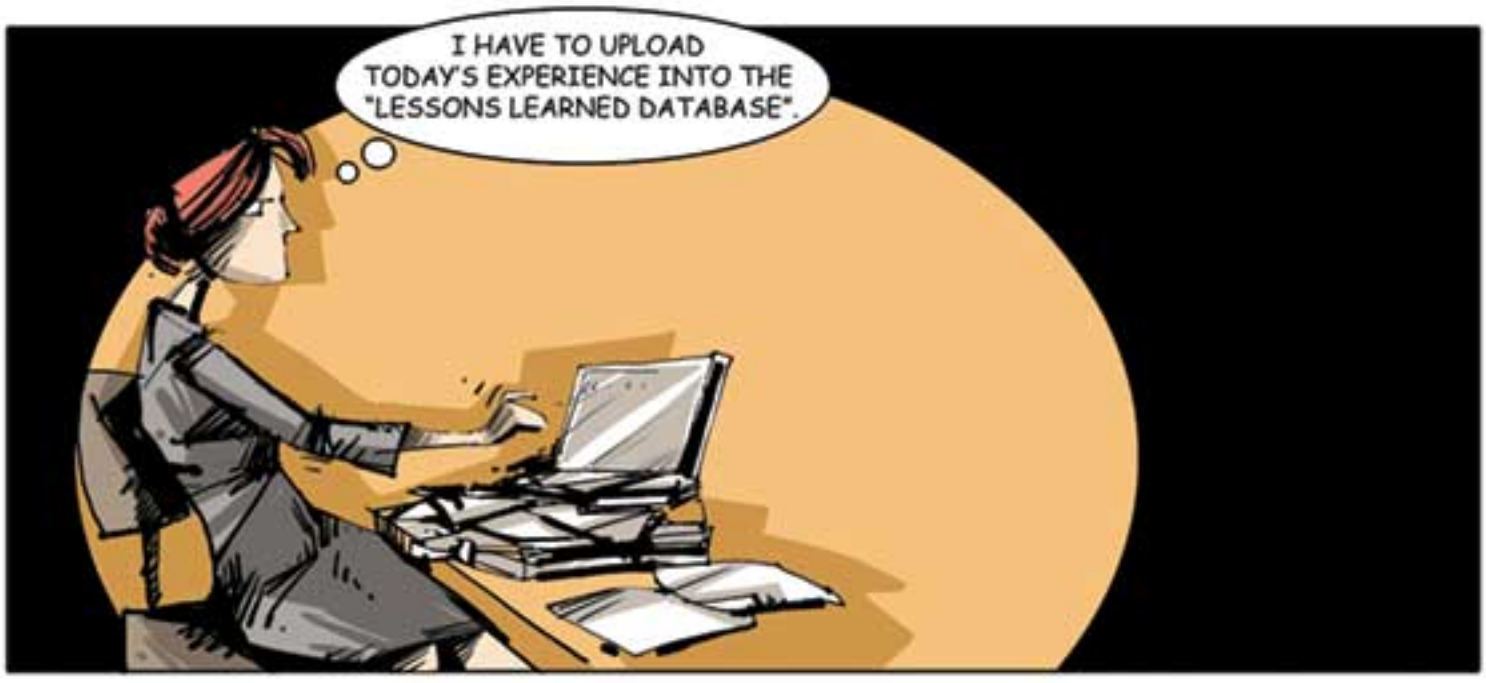
THEY SOLVED IT ALREADY !?
THIS AFTERNOON, AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT TO RESOLVE THE OIL POLLUTION ISSUE. AS WE REPORTED THIS MORNING, THE OIL SPILL OCCURRED 30 KILMETERS FROM THE BORDER...

SLURP
SLURP
HAS HAS
SRRK
SRRK
YOU WERE GREAT TODAY!
OH, VIC ...
THEY HAVE GOOD COCKTAILS ...
HIK!
MISS GABEL, I WISH SOME OF OUR DIPLOMATS COULD USE MODERN TECHNOLOGY LIKE YOU DO... WHERE WERE YOU TRAINED FOR THIS?
WE WERE GREAT, THE MERIT IS NOT ALL MINE..
I AM GLAD I WAS ABLE TO HELP.
AT DIPLO. I WILL BE GLAD TO GIVE YOU MORE INFORMATION, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.
THANK YOU, WE WILL TAKE IT INTO CONSIDERATION.
TJAH!
GLU GLU GLU


I HOPE WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES...
ME TOO.
?
BEEP BEEP
WELL DONE ANA! THIS WAS A GREAT SUCCESS IN YOUR CAREER!
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEE IT ON MY DESK
THANK YOU MINISTER... I WILL BE BACK TONIGHT... I THINK I'LL WRITE THE REPORT THIS EVENING, WHILE THE EVENTS ARE STILL FRESH IN MY MEMORY.
WHAT A DAY! I CAN'T WAIT TO GET HOME...
AND JUMP INTO A BUBBLE BATH...
DEAR PASSENGERS, PLEASE FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS...
SWUSSSSHHHH
...IN A FEW MINUTES WE WILL BE LANDING...



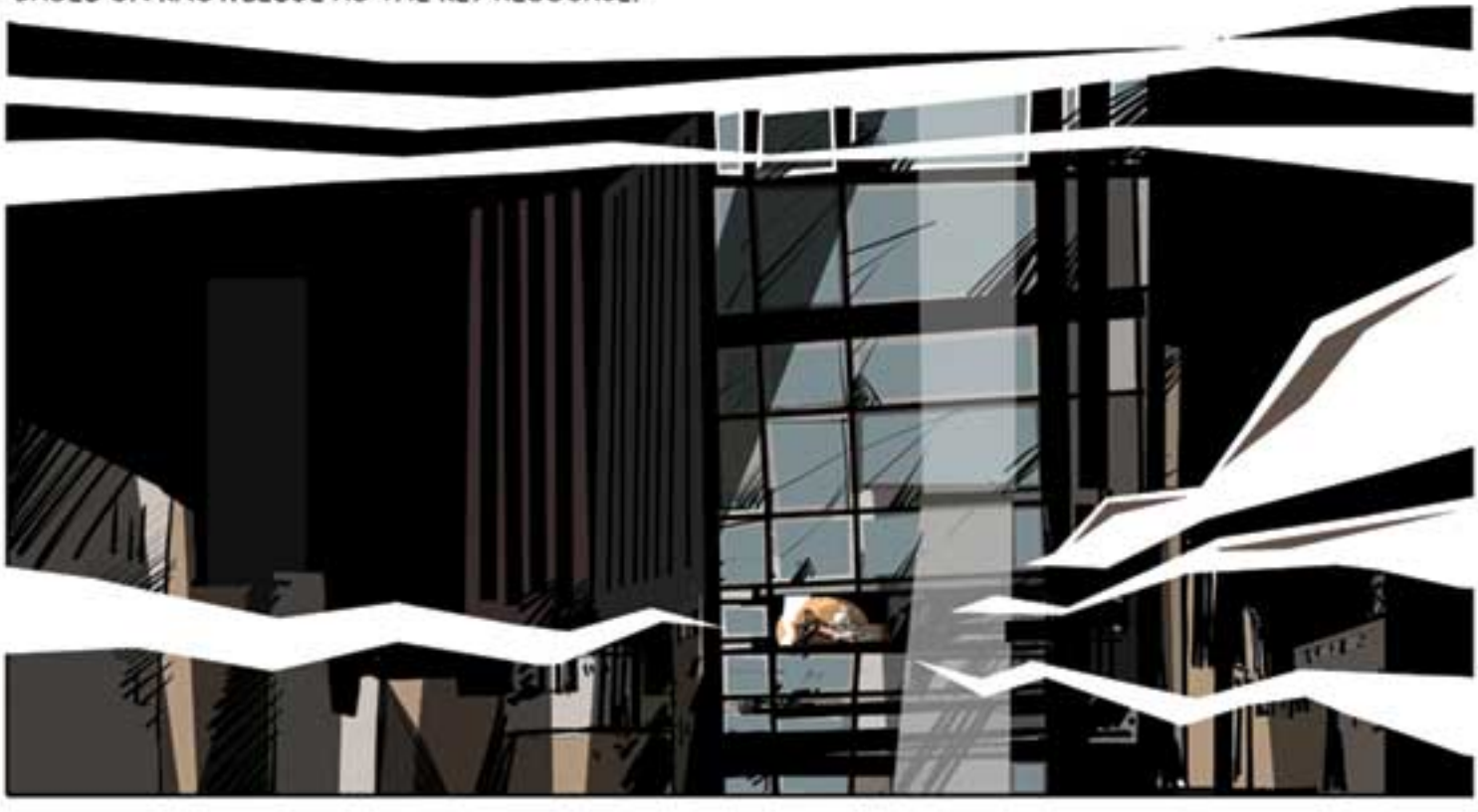
DIPLOMATIC REPORTING HAS CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS. IN THE PAST, DIPLOMATS WERE THE MAIN SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE SENDING STATE. TODAY, DIPLOMATS DO NOT NEED TO REPORT FACTS WHICH CAN EASILY BE ASCERTAINED ON THE INTERNET. INSTEAD, THEIR ROLE IS INCREASINGLY TO PROVIDE COMMENTS, ANALYSIS AND REFLECTIONS.


I HAVE TO UPLOAD TODAY'S EXPERIENCE INTO THE "LESSONS LEARNED DATABASE".

OH, THIS WAS ONE LONG DAY, I THINK I'LL SLEEP IN TOMORROW.

...zzzzzzzzzzzzzz!
THUD

ANA'S STORY SHOWS A MODERN INTERPLAY BETWEEN DIPLOMACY AND NEW TECHNOLOGY. FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT WILL REMAIN AS IMPORTANT AS EVER FOR DIPLOMACY. HOWEVER, THE INTERNET AND OTHER NEW TOOLS WILL INTRODUCE NEW DIPLOMATIC TECHNIQUES AND METHODS. AS ANA'S STORY SHOWS, THE BASIS FOR SUCCESS WILL BE A SMART BLEND BETWEEN TRADITIONAL AND MODERN DIPLOMATIC TECHNIQUES. THE BROADER CONTEXT MUST BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISATION OF DIPLOMATIC SERVICES BASED ON KNOWLEDGE AS THE KEY RESOURCE.



WHAT IS THIS, MAMA ?
GLUB! GLUB! I'M DROWNING !

THIS IS A BAIT, KIDS. THE FISHERMEN ARE BACK.
HELP !
A-HA !

THAT MEANS THE WATER IS CLEAN NOW.
ARGH !
WOW, CLEAN WATER !

THE END

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